

VOX NOSTRA

Vol VII

JULY 2019

No. 7

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

1. ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT

The **Annual Retreat** for the clergy of the Diocese will be held in the Pastoral Centre of the Diocese of Mangalore. The retreat begins at 6.30 pm on 14 July with an introductory conference and will end with lunch on 19 July. Please be in time. The preacher is Rev. Fr Juventius Andrade, CSsR. The annual retreat is a compulsory spiritual exercise which is a God-given opportunity for us priests to come together to pray, meditate and celebrate the Holy Eucharist and enrich ourselves with God-experience.

2. OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, celebrated on July 16, was first instituted in the late 14th century in commemoration of the approval of the rule of the Carmelite Order a hundred years earlier and it entered the Calendar of the universal Church in the early 18th century. The brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, according to the Carmelite tradition, was presented by Our Lady to St. Simon Stock, the then Father General on July 16, 1251. Many popes and saints have strongly recommended wearing the Brown Scapular to the Catholic faithful. The scapular stands for a commitment to follow Jesus, like Mary, the perfect model of all the disciples of Christ. This commitment finds its origin in baptism. It is also an expression of the belief that the bearers of the scapular will meet God in eternal life, aided by the intercession and prayers of Mary. I request all priests to promote the devotion of the holy Scapular by procuring sufficient number of them to distribute to the faithful.

3. ANNIVERSARY OF THE ERECTION OF THE DIOCESE

On 16 July 2012 Pope Benedict XVI erected the Diocese of Udupi which completes seven fruitful years this month of July. We have experienced abundant grace and providence of God in these seven years and we acknowledge these blessings of God and raise our hearts and minds in praising and thanking God the Father, Son and the Spirit. We also acknowledge the **sincere commitment, dedication and hard work of our priests, religious and lay faithful** through bringing together their unique talents and abilities in contributing to the growth of this fledgling Diocese despite the lack of infrastructural facilities at the Diocesan level. We are joyful to note that we have marched ahead as one diocese in executing the Pastoral Plan-Mission 2025 which has played a great role in making a niche of its own at regional and national level. Hence, I wholeheartedly thank and appreciate the services of all priests, religious and the lay faithful and request you all to work with greater zeal and efforts keeping aside differences in realizing the kingdom of God in this local Church. May God bless you. Let us go forward together with faith and hope and let us always be assured of the maternal care of Our Lady of Miracles, our Patron in our mission.

4. PASTORAL CONSULTATION 2019

During the Council of Priests' Meeting held on 21 June 2019 it was proposed to hold the diocesan level Pastoral Consultation for a day on **Wednesday, 28 August 2019** on pastoral issues/problems. Accordingly, I hereby approve this date and convoke the same so that the Agenda/Executive Committee of CP may go ahead with necessary preparations. I request the deans of all the five deaneries to convene the deanery priests' meetings, collect pastoral problems/issues and send them to Rev. Fr Anil Prakash Castelino, Secretary of the CP by 31 July 2019. I expect your wholehearted support and active participation in this Consultation.

5. EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH-OCTOBER 2019

Pope Francis has announced the Extraordinary Missionary Month-October 2019 with the theme “**Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World**” to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Pope Benedict XV’s Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud*. Awakening the awareness of the *missio ad gentes*, and reinvigorating the sense of responsibility for proclaiming the Gospel with new enthusiasm, are themes that combine the pastoral concern of Pope Benedict XV in his Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud*, published 100 years ago, with the missionary vitality expressed by Pope Francis in his recent Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*. The salient features of the guide for the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019, ”Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World,” were presented to the members of the Council of Priests and the Diocesan Pastoral Council in their meeting on 28 March 2019 and 5 June 2019 respectively. As for the celebration of this month in our Diocese, I have issued a decree and the same is given on page 15 as annexure 3. Let us all join together with the universal Church in celebrating this extraordinary month by executing the programmes proposed for our Diocese with right earnestness.

6. PASTORAL VISIT

From January 2020, I will be conducting pastoral visits in Kallianpur and Udupi deanery. Please begin separate Catechism classes from July 2019 using the textbook on Confirmation available at Divya Jyothi to candidates who are eligible for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Those who are in 10th Std and above this year are eligible for the same.

7. PRAYER FOR RAIN AND CARE FOR ENVIRONMENT

We are all aware that though we have begun the rainy season, we hardly got rain in the month of June and we don’t see much sign of rain during these days too. The situation is very serious for all of us especially for the farmers who are in very bad need of rain to begin their farming activities. Only God is our hope who can send us

rain! Therefore, I kindly request you all to offer special prayers so that God may bless us with sufficient rain, for scripture says, “again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops (James 5:18). Please include a prayer for rain in the prayers of the faithful during mass on Sundays. I encourage Parish Priests to organize prayers in the parishes by gathering faithful for the recitation of Rosary or the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. In addition to our prayers for rain, as per the call of Holy Father Pope Francis through ‘Laudato Si’ let us take up responsibility of caring for our ‘common home’ by protecting the earth through planting of saplings in the rainy season and also effective harvesting of rain water.

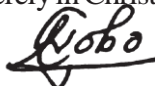
8. SUBMISSION OF ACCOUNTS

As per the constitution of Parish Finance Council (Nos. 2.12.6 to 2.12.9), all parishes are to submit the audited accounts to my office before 15 August 2019. Hence, I kindly remind all parish priests and heads of institutes to get their auditing of accounts completed at the earliest, present them to the concerned bodies as per the constitution of PFC and send us for scrutiny before the deadline. I request you to consider this as a great priority and not to delay the same so that we are able to go through the accounts and give necessary guidelines/ observations to be kept in mind during the maintenance of accounts of current financial year.

9. CLERICAL TRANSFERS/APPOINTMENTS

1. Rev. Fr Chetan Leo Lobo, as P.R.O and Director of Commission for Social Communications w.e.f. 07 June 2019.
2. Fr Rolwin Fernandes (New Priest) as Asst Priest(+BEd Studies) at Christ Church, Manipal w.e.f. 11 June 2019 .
3. Rev. Fr Lawrence Martis (Retired Priest) until now residing at St Lawrence Basilica,Attur has moved to Senior Priests’ Home, Jeppu, Mangalore.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+ 

+ Gerald I. Lobo

COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

1. DIVYAJYOTHI

- 07/7/2019 OFEM at Kallianpur Deanery at Brahmavar Church–
2.30 pm to 5.00 pm
- 07/7/2019 YOUCAT Seminar at Moodubelle, Basroor
- 14/7/2019 OFEM at Udupi Deanery at Udupi Church–
2.30 pm to 5.00 pm
- 14/7/2019 YOUCAT Seminar at Pethri, Hirgan, Kolagiri
- 21/7/2019 OFEM at Karkal Deanery at Karkal Town Church –
2.30 pm to 5.00 pm
- 21/7/2019 YOUCAT Seminar at Mukamar, Barkur, Trasi
- 28/7/2019 OFEM at Kundapur Deanery at Kundapur Church –
2.30 p.m. to 5.00 pm
- 28/7/2019 YOUCAT Seminar at Gangolli, Mount Rosary
- 04/8/2019 Training of new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy
Communion-9.30 am to 4.00 pm. Tea at 9.15 am. Mass
will be celebrated.**

Note:

1. Please select candidates for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion as per your requirement according to the revised guidelines (Oct 2016) given for Udupi Diocese and **register their names in writing before 25 July 2019**. I recommend not to select again as candidate whose request for renewal of term was rejected last year for lack of attendance at annual OFEM.
2. The registration fees (Rs 250) can be paid at their arrival for training.
3. Kindly note that the religious transferred within the Diocese need not attend this training. A letter of request to Bishop to grant them mandate in the new parish is sufficient. However, training is compulsory for those religious who are transferred from other dioceses to Udupi Diocese and are chosen for this ministry.
4. Since the term is three years, the mandate of Extraordinary Ministers **given in 2016, if required, should be renewed**. The Parish Priests should write to Bishop by filling the details in the prescribed form available at Bishop's House.

5. During the meeting of the Council of Priests held on 21 June 2019, there was an issue concerning the syllabus given for Sunday Catechism for VIII and X Std that the syllabus is too little and therefore the teachers could be provided with some additional material on contents of faith so that the teachers can teach children if they finish the prescribed syllabus early. Hence, as per the direction of Bishop, I hereby recommend the following contents of faith for children:

Std VIII : ಕ್ರಿಸ್ತಾಂವ್ ಮಾಗ್ಲೆಂ

- CCCC (ದೈವಿಕ್ ದಾಯ್ವ್) – ಸವಲಾಂ 534-598
- ಯುಕ್ಯಾಟ್ – ಸವಲಾಂ 469-527
- CCC (ಭಾವಾರ್ಥಾಚೆಂ ದಿವೆಂ) – ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 2558-2865

Std X : ಸ್ಪಾನ್ತಾಂ- ಬಾಲಾ ಅಡ್ವಿಗೊ

- CCCC (ದೈವಿಕ್ ದಾಯ್ವ್) – ಸವಲಾಂ 33-217
- ಯುಕ್ಯಾಟ್ – ಸವಲಾಂ 30-165
- CCC (ಭಾವಾರ್ಥಾಚೆಂ ದಿವೆಂ) – ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 26-1065

Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza
Director

2. COMMISSION FOR SCCs

02.07.2019	SCC Conveners meeting of Shirva Deanery
03.07.2019	SCC Conveners meeting of Karkal Deanery
04.07.2019	SCC Conveners meeting of Kallianpur Deanery
07.07.2019	SCC Training at Mukamar Parish
08.07.2019	SCC Training for Ward Samithi -Pilar Parish
12.07.2019	DAT meeting at Udupi
21.07.2019	SCC Training for the Youth (ICYM) of Kundapur Deanery
21.07.2019	'Spirituality of SCC' training at Kundapur Parish
23.07.2019	Regional TOT Training at Udupi
28.07.2019	SCC Training for the Youth (ICYM) of Shirva Deanery

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira
Director

3. COMMISSION FOR YOUTH

07 July YCS Central Council Election, Unit Animators' & Office
Bearers' Training

July 2019 YCS Central Council Residential Training

Rev. Fr Edwin D'Souza
Director

4. SAMPADA UDUPI

Lenten Campaign for Housing Fund 2019- Accounts

Income: 1. Collection from Parishes: Rs.13,57,550/=; 2. From
Convents: Rs. 43,400/=; 3. From Religious Houses Rs. 7,700/
=.Total Income Rs. 14,08,650/=

Expenditure: 1. Printing Rs. 47,000/=; 2. Prizes Rs 14,500/=; 3.
Postage and office expenditures: Rs 3,500/= Total expenses
Rs 65,000/=.

Balance amount **Rs. 13,43,650/=** is deposited in Diocesan Housing
Fund Account.

Thanks to Rev. Parish Priests, all Priests, Superiors and community
members for your whole hearted cooperation.

Regarding the distribution of funds, Rev .Parish Priests will soon
receive the guidelines.

Rev. Fr Reginald Pinto
Director

5. CATHOLIC EDUCATION SOCIETY OF UDUPI (CESU)

We are happy to inform you that the final result of St John's Com-
posite PU College, Pangla is 100%. We congratulate Rev. Fr Vincent
Coelho, then Principal, and the correspondent, Rev. Fr Ferdinand
Gonsalves and the teaching staff for this achievement.

Rev. Fr Vincent Crasta
Secretary

**DECREE DECLARING THE CELEBRATION OF THE
EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH IN OCTOBER
2019 IN THE DIOCESE OF UDUPI**

By his Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud*, - “that momentous and holy charge - *Maximum Illud sanctissimumque munus quod*,” Pope Benedict XV sought to give new impetus to the missionary task of proclaiming the Gospel. The duty of proclamation is a response to Jesus’ perennial command to “go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to all creation (Mk 16:15). Obeying this mandate of the Lord is not an option for the Church: in the words of the Second Vatican Council, it is her “essential task,” for the Church is “missionary by nature” (*Ad Gentes* 2). “Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity; she exists in order to evangelize” (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 14; *Ad Gentes*, 5).

In order to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Pope Benedict XV’s Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud*, Pope Francis has announced that this coming October will be an Extraordinary Missionary Month.

For the Extraordinary Missionary Month, the Holy Father has chosen the theme: ***‘Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on a Mission in the World’***. Awakening the awareness of the *missio ad gentes*, and reinvigorating the responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel with new enthusiasm, are themes that combine the pastoral concern of Pope Benedict XV in *Maximum Illud* with the missionary vitality expressed by Pope Francis in the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*: “Missionary action is the paradigm of every work of the Church” (EG 15).

There are four dimensions, specified by Pope Francis to live more intensely the journey of preparation for the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019:

1. A personal encounter with Jesus Christ living in His Church through the Eucharist, the Word of God, personal and communal prayer;
2. Testimony: missionary saints, martyrs and confessors of the faith, as an expression of the Church scattered throughout the world;
3. Missionary formation: biblical, catechetical, spiritual and theological;
4. Missionary charity.

The Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, Fernando Cardinal Filoni has proposed that each one of the particular Churches commits itself to prayerful reflection and concrete action in the meaningful celebration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month. In this regard he has said that the Pontifical Mission Societies (PMS) together with the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples are directly involved in the work of preparing and implementing the Extraordinary Missionary Month. The National and Diocesan PMS Directors present and active in the particular Churches are asked to work together so that this initiative of the Holy Father may indeed bring about renewed passion for the gospel, greater zeal, and missionary fervor within our Churches.

Keeping in mind the call given by our beloved Holy Father Pope Francis for an Extraordinary Missionary Month to be celebrated in October 2019 with the aim of fostering an increased awareness of the *missio ad gentes* and taking up again with renewed fervor the missionary transformation of the Church's life and pastoral activity (letter of Pope Francis to Cardinal Fernando Filoni dated 22 October 2017, and thereafter the letter of Cardinal Fernando Filoni to the Bishops (dated 03 December 2017), and following consultation with the Diocesan Council of Priests and the Pastoral council:

I hereby establish and decree that the month of October 2019 shall be the Extraordinary Missionary Month to be celebrated in all parishes of the Diocese of Udupi as per the call given by our Holy Father Pope Francis and that of the Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

Following ways and means are proposed for a meaningful celebration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month in October 2019:

1. Logo of Extraordinary Missionary Month (Translated in Konkanni) to be displayed in a prime place of every Parish.
2. Prayer for the Extraordinary Mission Month October 2019 (Translated in Konkanni) will be made available to every family to be recited during the family prayer.
3. Everyday Reflection (in Konkanni) for the Extraordinary Mission Month of October 2019 will be made available to all parish priests.
4. Seminar on Extraordinary Mission Month October 2019 to be organized to Priests, Religious, and the Laity at the deanery and diocesan levels.
5. Missionary Children Association Members of two or more parishes could be combined together and given training regarding their Association as a part of this celebration in October 2019.
6. In every parish, lay evangelizers' groups could be formed and ongoing training could be given at the deanery level once every month.
7. Mission Sunday Boxes are to be made available to all families in every parish. Families are to be educated to save Rs. 1/- every day for the cause of the missions. In this regard, children are to be encouraged to save for the missions and contribute into the family mission box.
8. Priests are requested to preach homilies on all Sundays of the Extraordinary Missionary Month 2019, directed towards the missions: our role, its importance and on the command of the Lord for evangelization and proclamation..
9. Short films on the *Missionary Saints* could be screened to the parishioners.
10. Activities such as *Food Fest & Auction* could be held; *Mission Calendars* and *Covers* to be made available to every family.

11. Any other befitting activity that a parish is able to devise that would promote the missions and bring out the true meaning and spirit of proclamation and evangelization.

Rev. Fr Vincent Crasta, the Director of the Commission for Proclamation and Evangelization will provide you with material required to implement nos. 1 to 9. Rev. Parish Priests are hereby requested to contact him.

The Deans of our deaneries are hereby requested to organize deanery level Pastoral Council meeting to deliberate on the manner in which this celebration can be effectively held in all parishes within their respective deanery.

The celebration of the Missionary Month of October 2019 can serve as a strong and firm foundation by enabling all the faithful to take to heart the proclamation of the Gospel and to help their families to grow in missionary and evangelizing zeal. May the love for the Church's mission, which is "a passion for Jesus and a passion for his people," grow ever stronger. I entrust you dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers and sisters with the work of preparing for this event, especially by raising awareness among the People of God and among the various Church associations, movements and communities. May the Extraordinary Missionary Month prove an intense and faithful occasion of grace, and promote initiative and above all prayers, the soul of all missionary activity. May it likewise advance the preaching of the Gospel, biblical and theological reflection on the Church's mission, work of Christian charity, and practical work of cooperation and solidarity between Churches so that missionary zeal may revive and never be wanting among us (*Evangelii Gaudium nos. 268, 80*).

I am issuing this Decree well in advance so that the Clergy, Religious and the Laity have enough time to prepare themselves for the meaningful celebration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month in October 2019

Issued from the Curia at Bishop's House in Udupi on 29 June 2019,
the Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul – Apostles.

PRAYER for the Extraordinary Mission Month October 2019 to
be recited (all days in October 2019) after each Mass during thanksgiving
and by every family after the evening holy Rosary (*Konkanni
translation will be made available*):

*Heavenly Father, when your only begotten Son Jesus Christ rose
from the dead, he commissioned his followers to “go and make
disciples of all nations” and you remind us that through our
Baptism we are made sharers in the mission of the Church.
Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be courageous and
zealous in bearing witness to the Gospel, so that the mission
entrusted to the Church, which is still very far from
completion, may find new and efficacious expressions that
bring life and light to the world. Help us make it possible for all
peoples to experience the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One
God, forever and ever. Amen.*

+ Gerald Isaac Lobo
Bishop of Udupi

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